

## CLAIMS

What is claimed as new and desired to be protected by  
Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A random number initial value generation device, the device being able to be used in an electronic apparatus that is to be connected to a network, the device comprising:  
time measuring means for measuring a period of time from turning on the electronic apparatus to receiving a network event via the network, so that time information for the period of time is obtained; and  
value determining means for determining a value of the initial random number on the basis of the time information obtained by the time measuring means.
2. The device according to claim 1, wherein the time measuring means measures the period of time from turning on the electronic apparatus to receiving via the network a first network event that occurs after turning on the electronic apparatus.

3. The device according to claim 1, wherein the value determining means includes calculating means for executing a predetermined calculation on the time information obtained by the time measuring means, so that the value of the initial random number is determined.
4. The device according to claim 3, further comprising storage means for storing the determined value of the initial random number,  
wherein next time the electronic apparatus is turned on, the calculating means executes the predetermined calculation on the determined value stored in the storage means, so that the value of the initial random number is determined in the next time.
5. Random number initial value generation method, the method being performed on an electronic apparatus that is to be connected to a network, the method comprising the steps of:  
measuring a period of time from turning on the electronic apparatus to receiving a network event via the network, so

that time information for the period of time is obtained; and  
determining a value of the initial random number on the  
basis of the obtained time information.

6. Random number initial value generation program, the  
program being able to be executed in an electronic  
apparatus that is to be connected to a network, and the  
program allowing the electronic apparatus to function as:  
time measuring means for measuring a period of time from  
turning on the electronic apparatus to receiving a network  
event via the network, so that time information for the  
period of time is obtained; and  
value determining means for determining a value of the  
initial random number on the basis of the time information  
obtained by the time measuring means.